

Informational Bulletin

FY 98-26

January 1998

Electronic Funds Transfer Voluntary Program Expanded



™: Taxpayers and Tax Practitioners

If you are required to make payments under the Electricity Excise Tax Law, the Gas Revenue Tax Act, the Water Company Invested Capital Tax Act, the Public Utilities Revenue Act, the Telecommunications Excise Tax Act, or the Telecommunications Municipal Infrastructure Maintenance Fee Act, you may make your payments by electronic funds transfer.

What is electronic funds transfer?

Electronic funds transfer (EFT) involves paying your liabilities electronically instead of by check. In short, you authorize money to be deducted from your bank account and credited to ours. We will then apply this amount toward your liability.

Electronic funds transfer is not electronic filing. EFT changes only the manner in which you make certain types of tax payments. EFT does not change how or when your tax returns are filed. Even though you elect to make your return payment by EFT, you must still file a paper return (e.g., ICT-4, RG-1, RT-2, RT-10, RPU-35).

What benefits does EFT offer?

EFT moves tax payments faster and offers you several benefits. Some of these benefits include

- elimination of check-generating costs
- implementation without significant up-front investment for computers or remittance processing hardware
- elimination of the payment voucher
- provision for debits at regular and predictable intervals
- assurance that your payments are received on time

What types of payment options are available through the Illinois EFT program?

The Illinois EFT program offers the following payment options:

- Automated Clearing House debit (ACH debit)
- **Automated Clearing House** credit (ACH credit)
- Federal Reserve wire transfer (Fedwire)

Note: Fedwire is for emergency backup use.

For detailed information on each of these options, refer to Booklet EFT-8, Electronic Funds Transfer Guide.

What new types of tax payments can I make through the Illinois EFT program?

Participants in the Illinois EFT program may now make the following payments through EFT:

- ICT-1, Electricity Distribution and Invested Capital Tax **Estimated Payment**
- ICT-4, Electricity Distribution and Invested Capital Tax Return (payment only)
- RG-1, Gas Revenue Tax Return (payment only)
- RPU-50, Public Utilities Quarter-Monthly Payment -Gas
- RPU-35. Public Utilities Tax Return (payment only)
- RPU-50, Public Utilities Quarter-Monthly Payment -Electric
- RT-2, Telecommunications Excise Tax Return (payment only)
- RPU-50, Public Utilities Quarter-Monthly Payment -**Telecommunications**

Page 2 FY 98-26

 RT-10, Telecommunications Infrastructure Maintenance Fee Return (payment only)

How can I participate in the Illinois EFT program?

In order to participate in our EFT program, you must

- register with us by properly completing and signing Form EFT-1, Authorization Agreement for Electronic Funds Transfer; and
- follow our procedures and guidelines, which include completion of testing before any funds are actually involved.

How can I verify that the Illinois Department of Revenue received my payment?

When using the Illinois Electronic Funds Transfer System, you will receive a confirmation number from the system. You should record this number and keep it in your records. This number will allow you to track your electronic payment if needed. We can provide you with EFT payment acknowledgment information two business days after the date the payment is deposited.

What if I want to use a credit memorandum for these types of tax payments?

If you want to use a credit memorandum for these types of tax payments, you must attach the original credit memorandum to your return and report the amount you wish to use on the appropriate line.

If you have any remaining tax due after applying your credit memorandum, you may pay the remaining tax due using EFT. If you have any questions about using a credit memorandum, please call our Springfield office weekdays between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. at 217 785-5851.

Questions?

If you have questions or need more information, please call or write us. Our telephone numbers and address are printed at the bottom of this bulletin.

For information or forms...

Call us at 1 800 732-8866 or 217 782-3336.

Call our TDD (telecommunications device for the deaf) at 1 800 544-5304.

Write us at Illinois Department of Revenue, P.O. Box 19044, Springfield, IL 62794-9044.

Visit our Web site at <www.revenue.state.il.us>.

Call "Illinois Tax Fax," our fax-on-demand service, at 217 785-3400.

Call our 24-hour Forms Order Line at 1 800 356-6302.

